


**INSURANCE  
INFORMATION  
INSTITUTE**

## Challenges and Opportunities for the P/C Insurance Industry

**Casualty Loss Reserve Seminar  
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## What in the World Is Going On?

**Is the World Becoming a Riskier Place?**  
***What are the Implications for Insurance and Risk Management?***

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### Uncertainty, Risk, and Fear Abound

- **US Debt/Budget Crisis and S&P Downgrade**
  - ♦ Short-term: Slow Growth/A Double Dip Recession?
  - ♦ Long-term: Era of Fiscal Austerity?
  - ♦ Hyper-Inflation? Deflation?
- **Housing Crisis**
- **Persistently High Unemployment**
- **European Sovereign Debt Crises**
- **Earthquakes/Nuclear Reactor Meltdowns**
- **Record Tornadoes, Floods, Wildfires, in the US**
- **Manmade Disasters**
  - ♦ Deepwater Horizon, "Fracking"
- **Resurgent Terrorism Risk**
- **Political Upheaval in the Middle East**
- **China on Track to Be #1 Economy in the World**
  - ♦ *Is the U.S. era over?*



Are "Black Swans" everywhere or does it just seem that way?

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**The BIG Question:  
When Will the Market Turn?**

**Insurance Cycle Dynamics**

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**Criteria Necessary for a “Market Turn”:  
All Four Criteria Must Be Met**



Criteria	Status	Comments
Sustained Period of Large Underwriting Losses	<i>Not Yet Happened</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apart from Q2:2011, overall p/c underwriting losses remain modest</li> <li>Combined ratios (ex-Q2 CATs) still in low 100s (vs. 110+ at onset of last hard market)</li> <li>Prior-year reserve releases continue reduce u/w losses, boost ROEs</li> </ul>
Material Decline in Surplus/Capacity	<i>Surplus is At/Near Record High</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surplus hit a record \$565B as of 3/31/11</li> <li>Analysts est. excess surplus of \$75-\$100B</li> <li>Some excess capacity may still remain in reinsurance markets</li> <li>Weak growth in demand for insurance is insufficient to absorb much excess capacity</li> </ul>
Tight Reinsurance Market	<i>Somewhat in Place</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higher prices in Asia/Pacific</li> <li>Modestly improved pricing for US risks</li> </ul>
Renewed Underwriting & Pricing Discipline	<i>Not Broadly Evident</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commercial lines pricing trends remain negative</li> <li>Competition remains intense as many seek to maintain market share</li> <li>Terms &amp; conditions—no broad tightening</li> </ul>

Sources: Barclays Capital; Insurance Information Institute.

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**Underwriting Trends**

**The Financial Crisis/Great Recession  
Did Not  
Directly Affect Underwriting  
Performance**

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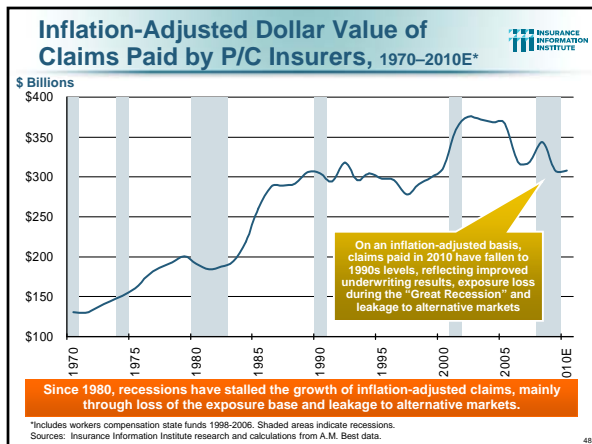
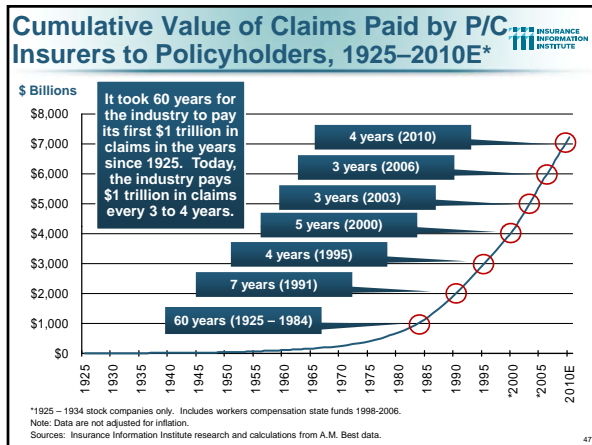
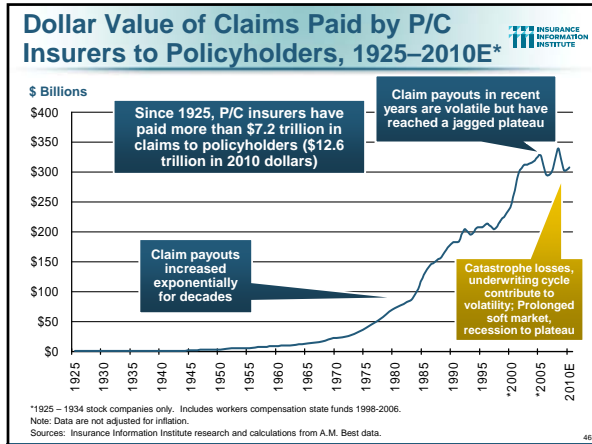
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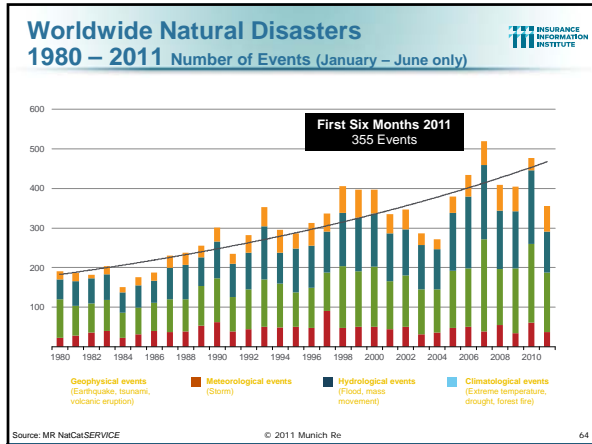












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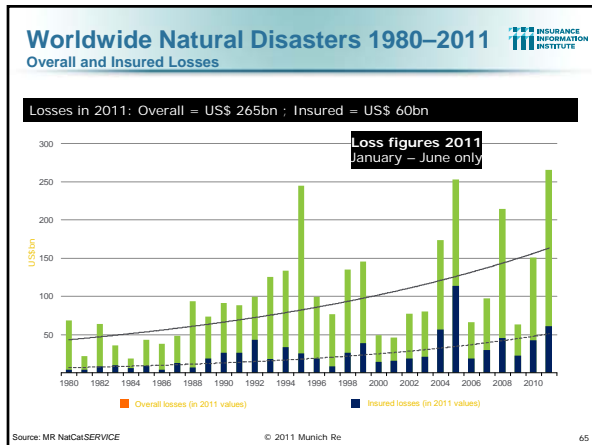
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## Inflation's Not an Issue for Property-Casualty Insurers Now—Right?

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## P/C Insurance Industry Financial Overview

**Profit Recovery Will Be Slowed by High CATs, Low Interest Rates, Diminishing Reserve Releases**

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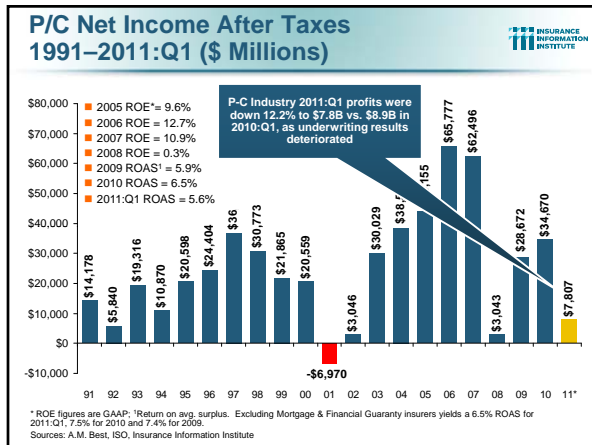
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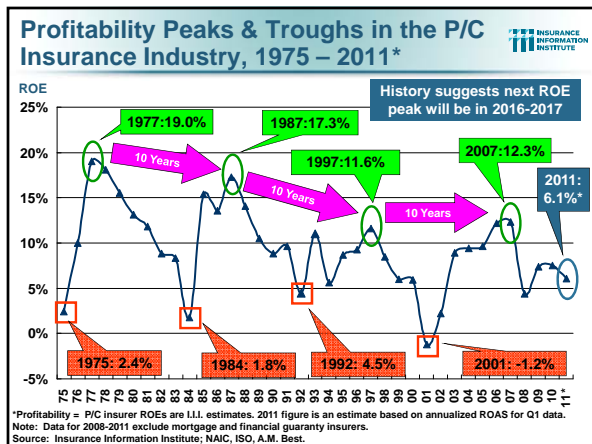
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*Thank you for your time  
and your attention!*

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